

**OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT PLAN
PSYCHOLOGY
2018-2019**

Psychology Undergraduate
(Instructional Degree Program)

B.A./B.S.
(Degree Level)

Program Mission:

The mission of the Department of Psychology is to contribute to meeting the educational and research needs in psychology; provide the training to meet the career needs in psychological services and research, as well as for careers in education, engineering, physical and biological sciences, medicine, and other science fields; assist in meeting the need for secondary school teacher certification in psychology; and to provide psychological and sociocultural service and expertise for the region, as well as the greater global community.

Student Learning Outcome 1:

Demonstrate critical thinking and an understanding of psychology as applied to everyday life.

NMHU Traits Specifically Linked to Student Learning Outcome 1

- Mastery of Content Knowledge and Skills
- Critical and Reflective Thinking Skills

First Means of Assessment for Outcome 1 (1.1):

Grades from the applied papers assigned in Psychology 340, Developmental Psychology, Psychology 324, Abnormal Psychology, Psychology 328, Theories of Personality and Psychology 408 Drugs and Behavior will be used for this assessment. Successful completion of this objective will be demonstrated by 85% of students in those classes receiving a grade of C or better on these papers.

Summary of Data:

Number of Students Meeting Criterion:	65	Number of Students Not Meeting Criterion:	4
Total Number of Students Assessed:	69	Percent of Students Meeting Criterion:	94.2%

Second Means of Assessment for Outcome 1 (1.2):

Psychology students will complete a survey in which one item will allow them to evaluate how well the psychology program teaches them to demonstrate critical thinking and an understanding of psychology as applied to everyday life. Successful completion of this outcome will be demonstrated by average survey scores of psychology majors who are juniors and seniors whose scores were 5 or higher on a 7-point scale.

Summary of the Data:

Number of Students Meeting	15	Number of Students Not Meeting	0
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Criterion:		Criterion:	
Total Number of Students Assessed:	15	Percent of Students Meeting Criterion:	100%

Interpretation of Results for Outcome 1:

We are pleased that we clearly met our goals for Outcome 1. It is especially encouraging that the upper classmen strongly believe they are getting the education they need for critical thinking and the application of psychology to everyday life. We have plans to increase response rate for the survey for the next data collection cycle including Brightspace and sending the survey to upper division classes at the end of the semester.

Student Learning Outcome 2:

Be able to read, understand, and critique psychological literature.

NMHU Traits Specifically Linked to Student Learning Outcome 2

- Mastery of Content Knowledge and Skills
- Effective Communication Skills
- Critical and Reflective Thinking Skills

First Means of Assessment for Outcome 2 (2.1):

Grades from the paper and/or presentation in Psychology 301, Psychological Research Methods will be used for this assessment. Successful completion of this objective will be demonstrated by 85% of students in the class receiving a grade of C or better on this paper.

Summary of the Data:

Number of Students Meeting Criterion:	52	Number of Students Not Meeting Criterion:	7
Total Number of Students Assessed:	59	Percent of Students Meeting Criterion:	91.2%

Second Means of Assessment for Outcome 2 (2.2):

Grades from the final paper assigned in Psychology 405, Positive Psychology and the lab presentation in Psychology 411, Techniques in Physiological Psychology will be used for this assessment. Successful completion of this objective will be demonstrated by 85% of students in the classes receiving a grade of C or better on these assignments.

Summary of the Data:

Number of Students Meeting Criterion:	47	Number of Students Not Meeting Criterion:	1
Total Number of Students Assessed:	48	Percent of Students Meeting Criterion:	97.9%

Third Means of Assessment for Outcome 2 (2.3):

Psychology students will complete a survey in which one item will allow them to evaluate how well the psychology program teaches them to be able to read, understand and critique psychological literature. Successful completion of this outcome will be demonstrated by average survey scores of juniors and seniors that the outcome was successfully completed being 5 or higher on a 7-point scale.

Summary of the Data:

Number of Students Meeting Criterion:	15	Number of Students Not Meeting Criterion:	0
Total Number of Students Assessed:	15	Percent of Students Meeting Criterion:	100%

Interpretation of Results for Outcome 2:

We met all of our goals on this outcome. Students performed quite well on this outcome and their subjective assessment also supported faculty performance measures.

Student Learning Outcome 3:

Ability to design, analyze, and interpret the results of an experiment, and to report the results in written form with the accurate use of APA format.

NMHU Traits Specifically Linked to Student Learning Outcome 3

- Mastery of Content Knowledge and Skills
- Effective Communication Skills
- Critical and Reflective Thinking Skills
- Effective Use of Technology

First Means of Assessment for Outcome 3 (3.1):

Grades from the final paper assigned in Psychology 302, Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences, and from the final projects from any students completing Psychology 499, Independent Research will be used. Successful completion of this objective will be demonstrated by 85% of students in the class receiving a grade of C or better on these assignments.

Summary of the Data:

Number of Students Meeting Criterion:	41	Number of Students Not Meeting Criterion:	2
Total Number of Students Assessed:	43	Percent of Students Meeting Criterion:	95.3%

Second Means of Assessment for Outcome 3 (3.2):

Psychology students will complete a survey in which one item will allow them to evaluate how well the psychology program teaches them to design, analyze and interpret the results of an experiment, and to report the results in written form with accurate use of APA format. Successful completion of this outcome will be demonstrated by average survey scores of juniors and seniors that the outcome was

successfully completed being 5 or higher on a 7-point scale.

Summary of the Data:

Number of Students Meeting Criterion:	14	Number of Students Not Meeting Criterion:	1
Total Number of Students Assessed:	15	Percent of Students Meeting Criterion:	93.3%

Interpretation of Results for Outcome 3:

Students met standards of performance set by the three faculty who evaluated them on this outcome.

Utilization of Results:

There are many positive outcomes from AY 2018-19 as seen in this report. As a department, we will continue to work to maintain these outcomes and be vigilant that outcomes do not begin to slip downwards. These findings validate the effectiveness of faculty instruction and student learning.

Changes to Program Based on Results:

Based on this year's outcomes, Psychology is not considering major changes to our outcomes assessment procedure. However, as the program continues to grow, we will be open to making changes that improve outcomes and assessment.